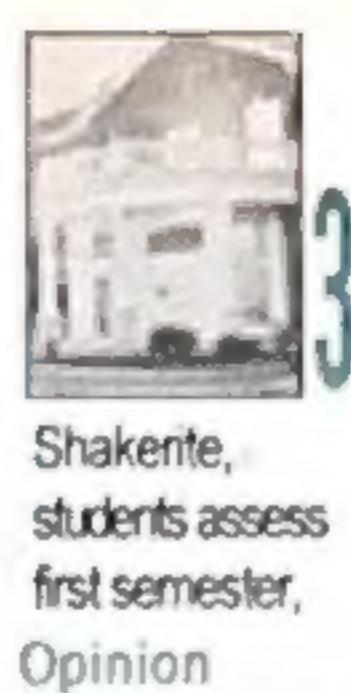


The Shakerite

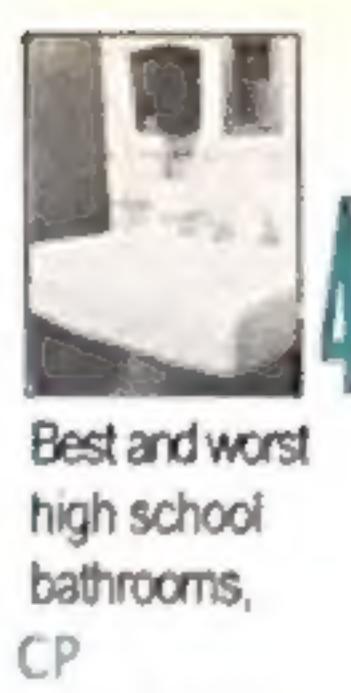
January 31, 2003 • Volume 73 • Issue 5 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120



2
Staffer follows
two security
guards for a day,
News



3
Shakerite,
students assess
first semester,
Opinion



4
Best and worst
high school
bathrooms,
CP



5
Fencing coach
William Reith
rarely is foiled,
Sports

Intruders, student assault peer during school

• Arrested students return for second attempt

By KYAN SAFAVI
NEWS EDITOR

In spite of the arrests of two Cleveland Public School students for the assault of a Shaker freshman in the high school Jan. 8, Principal Michael Griffith will not require students to show Shaker IDs upon entering school.

"I don't support the use of IDs as a coercive identification," he said. "That could create a negative environment."

A Shaker sophomore brought two girls from East and South High schools to the building Jan. 8 in order to beat up a Shaker freshman. Security staff broke up the fight, but not before the freshman was hit in the face and chest and history teacher Terry Pollack was struck in the face while trying to intervene, according to the incident report filed by the Shaker

NARRATIVE •
A day in the
life of a
security guard
• page 2

Heights Police.

Four days later the three assailants, who live together in a foster home, entered the building and made another attempt to beat up the freshman immediately after school, but their plan was foiled when the security staff intercepted them. The three girls have been charged with assault. The two Cleveland Public School students were also charged with criminal trespassing. As for the

SEE FIGHT, PAGE 2



Griffith

Wooster BOE stifles student newspaper

By ALEX BUDER SHAPIRO
NEWS EDITOR

Students at Wooster High School may be promised an "unfettered student press" by the school board's Student Publication Rights document, but editors at The Wooster Blade found that some promises are not always kept.

"I feel that our right to publish information that we deem accurate at the time of publication has been violated."

Mitch Johnson
Wooster Blade
opinion editor

allegedly one of the drinking athletes.

"I feel that our right to publish information that we deem accurate at the time of publication has been violated," said Mitch Johnson, an opinion/editorial editor at the Blade. Wooster has a school board policy of open forum, which prohibits prior

SEE WOOSTER, PAGE 2

OVERTURE TO A NEW YEAR



Brian Gamm • THE SHAKERITE

BASS CLARINETISTS ERIN Neal and Tom Wilson rehearse their new Wind Ensemble repertoire during first period Dec. 18. "I really like the opening of Symphonic Overture," said senior Elissa Courtright, an alto saxophone player in the ensemble for the last two years. The band's next concert is March 4.

Hand-to-hand doesn't always mean combat

• Time honored gesture of good will takes on a new twist

By EMILY OZAN
A&E EDITOR

Freshmen Sylvia Arellano and Donald Aaron see each other in the cafeteria during sixth period lunch and immediately they touch each of their fingers on their right hands together, snap their fingers and then grab each other's hands and point.

This elaborate ritual takes the place of a simple "Hello," and it's just one example of

TRY IT OUT •
Learn two
multistep
handshakes
• page 6

students' creative handshakes.

Aaron and Arellano created this four-step handshake last November. "It's like a best friend handshake. Only we know

it," Aaron said.

The handshake was once a simple gesture.

SEE HANDSHAKE, PAGE 6



Sarah Wang • THE SHAKERITE
FRESHMEN SYLVIA ARELLANO and Donald Aaron demonstrate the handshake they created.

Don't bank on a snow day

• Closing school 'casually' is not a district policy

By WILL WEMER
FEATURE EDITOR

Islamic School of the Oasis . . . Ravenna City Schools, Revere Local Schools, Salem Local Schools, Seven Hills City Schools . . . Solon City Schools . . . Damn!

Shaker, the 7-Eleven of public education, is always open. Even when the snow is a foot deep and the wind chill is minus a billion.

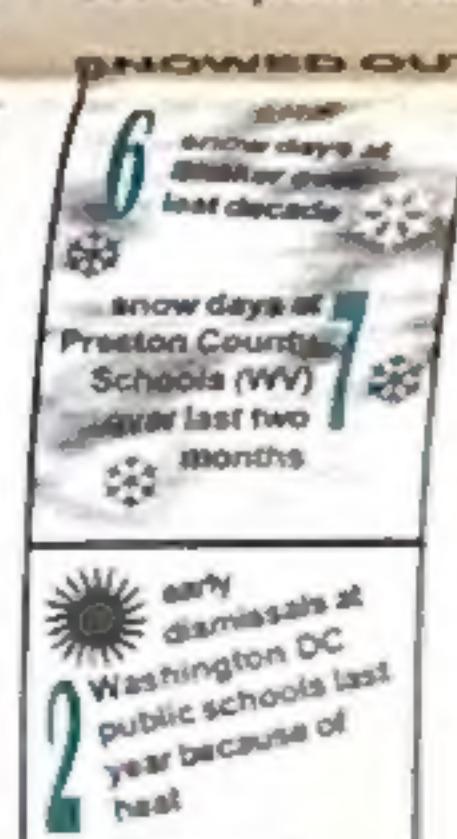
Every Shaker student knows the pain of holding vigil in front of the TV as Cleveland's local news stations compete to break the good news, only to realize yet again that Shaker rarely closes for snow. On Jan. 27, NewsChannel 5 had 180 reported snow days. But was one of those Shaker? Take a lucky guess.

It's a fact. Shaker calls substantially fewer snow days than other area schools. Director of Communications Peggy Caldwell quickly exclaimed "What snow days?" when asked about weather cancellations. She added that school has closed only about half a dozen times for snow in the last decade, and that calling snow days is not a policy of the school district.

"The overall philosophy of the district is that we don't call off school casually," Caldwell said. "School is extremely important. It's the job of students. If adults are expected to get to their job, students are expected to get to their job."

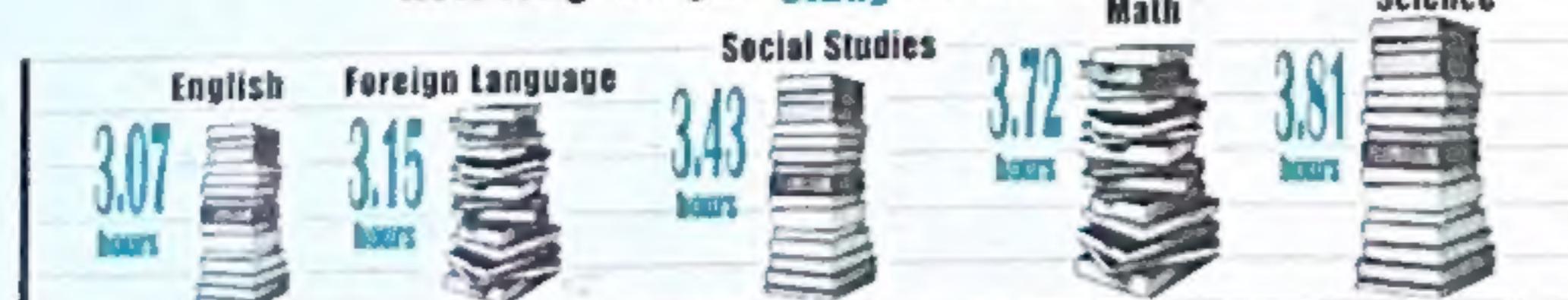
Shaker will close schools if the city's streets cannot be adequately plowed in time for travel. This accounted for three snow days in 1996, when a snowstorm dumped more than four feet of snow on the eastern suburbs. In 1999, school was closed

SEE SNOW, PAGE 6



SNOWED OUT
6 winter days at Shaker since last decade
snow days at Preston County Schools (WV) over last two months
2 Washington DC public schools last year because of heat

How long will you study for your finals?



Would you like to have finals before winter break?



Scientific poll of 100 students with a margin of error of +/- 10 percent. Journalism 1, Cristmill and Shakerite classes telephoned students prior to final exams.

**the
News
Desk****School will still
sponsor dances**

• Although there have been at least two incidents in which paramedics have had to treat drunk students at dances this year ("Three incidents mar dance" - Dec 19 and "Dancing with drunks at Shaker" - Oct 25), Principal Michael Griffith said that the school will still sponsor student dances, despite rumors to the contrary. "I have no desire to eliminate dances from the calendar," he said. Griffith added that the school will continue to sell tickets to dances only in advance and will not allow students to enter after a set time. No new safety measures will be taken.

**District scores
improve**

• The Shaker schools met 19 of 22 state standards last year, three more than in 2001. The standards measure proficiency test scores, graduation rates and student attendance. Shaker met all ninth-grade standards. "It's a minimum proficiency assessment. While we recognize its importance, it does not drive our curriculum," Principal Michael Griffith said.

**Students can
charge lunch
purchases to ID
cards**

• Students can now charge cafeteria lunch purchases to their student ID cards. In a letter to all parents, Food Service Supervisor Cindy Gorfido said that the new program, Café Terminal, will speed up cafeteria lines. Parents can place money in their children's accounts by writing a check to the Shaker Heights City Schools Food Service. Café Terminal has been used at Woodbury School since September. ("An order of fries, charge it please" - Nov 22)

Joseph Turtakoff

Security handles locks, loiterers and lunch squabbles

• Staff reporter follows security guard

BY EMILY GRANNIS
STAFF REPORTER

Security guard Joe Freeman has a simple message for the mob shuffling past the library door before first period.

"Let's keep moving, people!" he yells as I join him, embarking on a day of shadowing Shaker security.

After the bell rings and the halls empty, Freeman sets off through his assigned sections of the basement and first floor in search of open locks. By looking straight down the rows of lockers, he can easily spot a hanging lock. Freeman turns each loose one backwards as a warning to forgetful students.

Freeman uses the remaining time during first period to roam his area of the halls near the library and in the basement, checking for loitering students who need prompting to get to class. As a retired postmaster, Freeman said he likes working at Shaker because it's a change of pace.

"I've been there, done that, and I'm more laid back. I try my best not to get emotional but some days it's hard," he said. "My biggest success is in knowing that when you deal with kids they'll be kids. I treat

"We put out little fires to prevent big ones in a sense."

Victor Ferrell
Security guard**Day
in a
Life**

them as such. I let them know that I know they did something but it's not that important to report. They acknowledge me and improve."

Just before fourth period, I'm passed off like a football and I continue my day with security by following Victor Ferrell, who is second in command of high school security. Ferrell is posted in the cafeteria during all three lunch periods.

"The whole premise of high school security is prevention. We want to prevent things from happening. We put out little fires to prevent big ones in a sense," Ferrell said.

A fight breaks out between two boys just as Ferrell enters the cafeteria. Sprinting over, he joins fellow security guard Paul Daniels in splitting up the students. While Daniels tucks one under his arm, Ferrell takes the other out the back door and makes a beeline for the nurse.

By the time I catch up with him, Ferrell is washing his hands off in the nurse's office and Daniels is trying to get a bloodstain out of his cream-colored fleece coat. Head of security Mike Klima is looking into who saw the fight and locating witnesses. All of this happens within five minutes of the beginning of the fight. Ferrell partially attributes such problems to the crowds in the lunchroom.

"It's amazing how when the kids have space it brings down the problems. The crowd itself escalates



Will Eastwick • THE SHAKERITE

SENIOR MARCUS PAYNE and sophomore Reggie Motley chat with security guard Victor Ferrell. Ferrell has been a security guard at Shaker Heights High School for seven years.

students to either head to conferences with a teacher or go home.

Between the lunch periods, Ferrell walks around and monitors hallways. Finally during ninth period, he re-enters the cafeteria and takes about 10 to 15 minutes total to get and eat his lunch before resuming his hall roaming. This is Ferrell's longest break all day.

As tenth period ends, security's job picks up again. Guards position themselves at every door and at the busiest hallways and staircases to monitor traffic and encourage stu-

dents to either head to conferences with a teacher or go home.

After an entire day of running around the building non-stop, Freeman and Ferrell seem to have just as much energy as at the beginning of the day. For all anyone knows, they've been relaxing all day and not solving the school's troubles.

Although several problems seem to have occurred throughout the day, Ferrell expressed how well behaved the student body is.

"Overall we have a good school," he said. "We really do."

Open forum status compromised in Wooster student newspaper

FROM WOOSTER, PAGE 1

review of the paper by school officials, and also forbids halting distribution. Because the issue was never distributed, Johnson maintains that the students' rights were ignored.

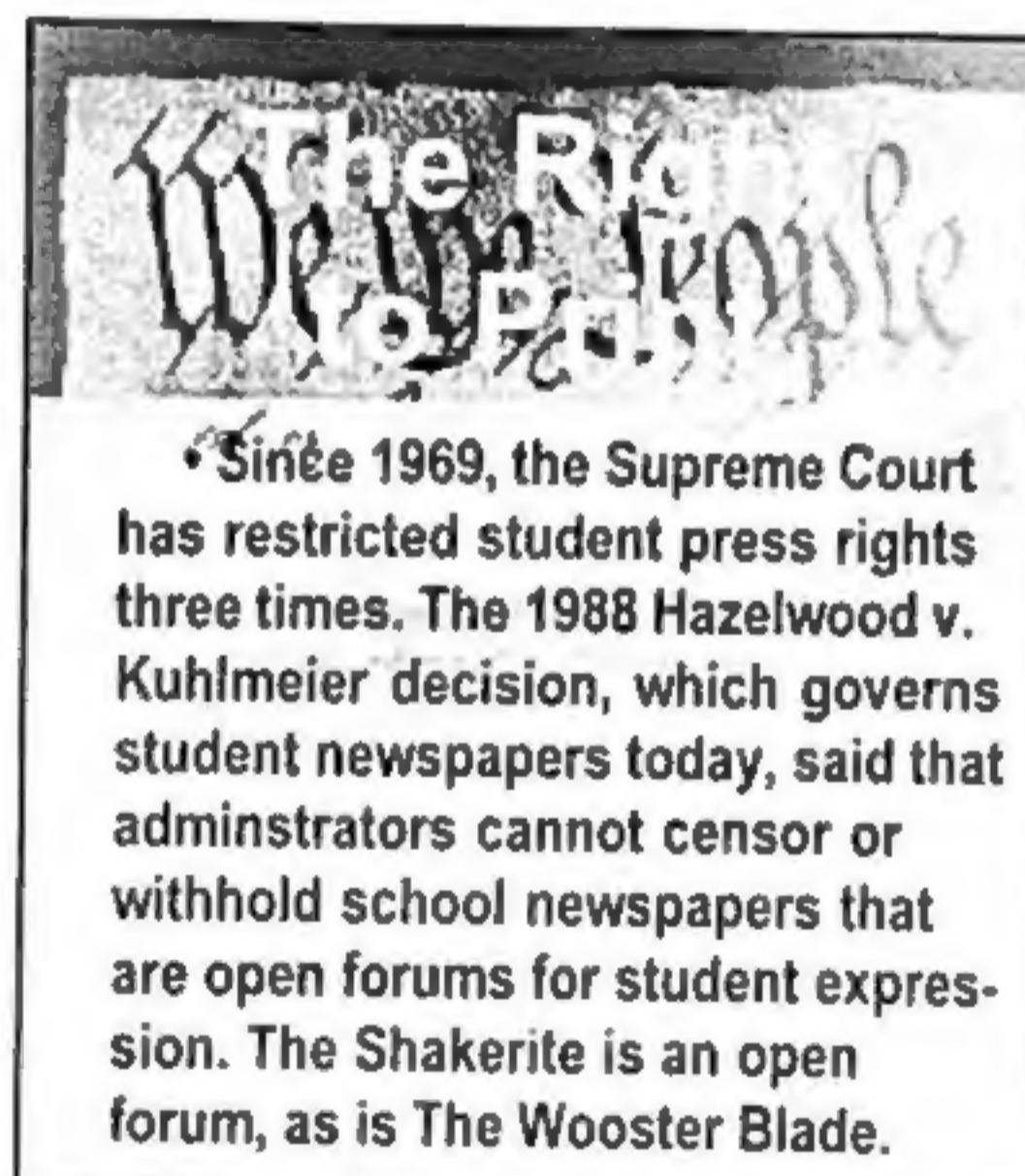
"It is ludicrous to make governing laws and then not to follow them," Johnson said.

The story in question centered on a group of student athletes who were found drinking at a private party, and received a lighter punishment than the school mandated one. Wooster administrators maintain that the article gave the impression that the school board gave favored treatment to the athletes, and that students receiving disciplinary action cannot have their names published without parental consent.

The students took the argument to court. U.S. District Court Judge Donald Nugent ordered that the controversial sections of the article be eliminated and the paper reprinted. It was distributed Jan. 15. According to Johnson, the reprinted edition included white spaces in lieu of the removed statements and an explanation of the situation.

The Shakerite has a similar open forum policy, outlined in the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. As stated, students have the "right to free expression of ideas and to participate in the publication of such ideas" as long as no published material causes "a substantial disruption of the educational process."

"The district likes to leave editorial decisions to the editors. It is a 'hands-off' policy," said



Peggy Caldwell, director of communications "[Superintendent] Freeman feels strongly that student editors can be entrusted to uphold professional journalistic standards. He also feels strongly about unfettered student press, saying that you won't see anything like [the Wooster case] under his watch."

Sophomore Halle Morse would be upset if a scenario like Wooster's occurred at Shaker.

"I don't feel that the school has a right [to censor] unless the newspaper is directly infringing on a student's rights," Morse said.

Two trespassers and police involved in high school brawl

FROM FIGHTS PAGE 1

Shaker student, she is "no longer part of the school community," according to Assistant Principal Reginald Blue.

Both incidents involved a dispute over a boy, according to District Safety Coordinator Michael Klima.

The first incident occurred near Room 253B between fifth and sixth period. The freshman who was attacked said, "I went to put on my backpack and I felt someone hit me on the head."

Klima believes that although the two trespassers were able to enter the high school, security is not at fault. He noted that the girls, indistinguishable amongst the throngs of students, were escorted in by the Shaker sophomore.

Griffith also does not believe lack of security was to blame. "We need a general knowledge of who is a Shaker student and who is not. A lot of our security is good with vi-



Klima

sual recognition. We are working to focus where students and visitors enter after period one," Griffith said.

The high school has recently instituted a system in which all building doors except the main entrance are locked after first period. Although this system was not created because of the fight, it may serve to prevent unwanted visitors from entering the school.

Junior Mark Vieira would like to see a change in security. "They don't get to places very fast to break up fights. They are so spread out. The school should find a better way to position the security guards so that they concentrate in places like the main hall where there is a lot of commotion."

Will Wegner and Jennifer Broadbent contributed to this story.



REBECCA'S

SHAKER BARBER SHOP

Rebecca DeVenanzio

(216) 229-3057

12808 Larchmere Boulevard
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

Shaker Heights

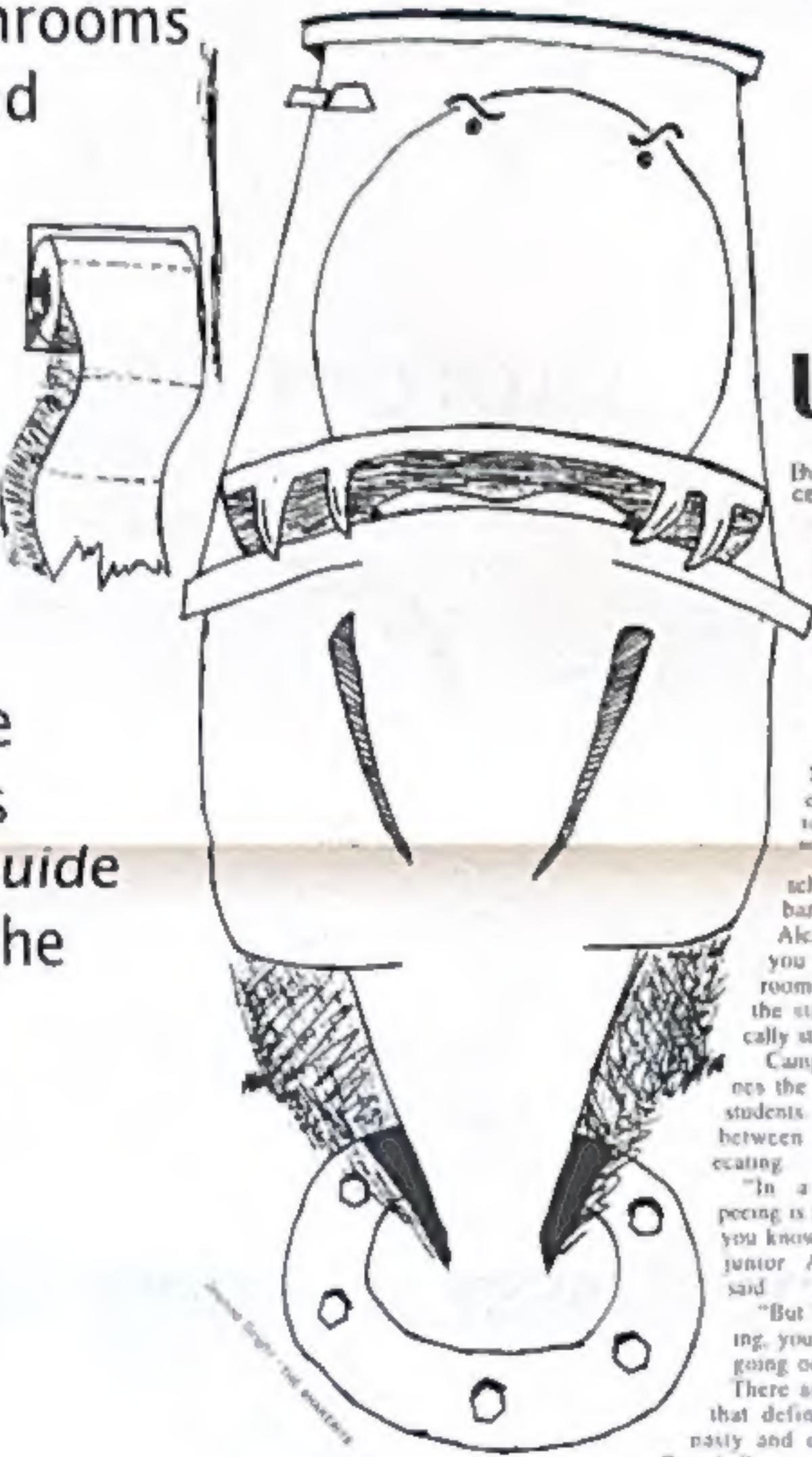
Teachers' Association

SHTA

Professionals
EducatingDedicated To
Shaker's Youth

DOUBLE, DOUBLE TOILET

• Anyone got Lysol? School bathrooms are feared by many, the site for the latest gossip and one more place to be polite. Centerpiece presents its complete guide for use of the school bathrooms



Uncanny fear of

By DAVID MORGENSEN
CENTERPIECE EDITOR

Everybody's doing it, but nobody talks about. Every day, millions of kids across the nation, even in Shaker, lie to their friends, teachers and even parents.

Drug? Sex? Nope. It's what every student is afraid to admit doing in school pooping.

"I don't poop in school because it's embarrassing," junior Alena Campbell said. "If you walk into the bathroom and someone is in the stalls, you automatically start laughing."

Campbell's response echoes the feelings of Shaker students. There is a fine line between urination and defecating.

"In a guy's bathroom, peeing is no big thing because you know what is going on," junior Arden McWilliams said.

"But if someone is pooping, you never know what is going on inside of the stall. There are sounds and stuff that definitely make it real nasty and embarrassing," said Campbell.

Cleanliness also contributes to student's fear of using the bathroom in school. Urban myths about public bathrooms range from contracting lice from a toilet seat to getting pregnant.

"I'm afraid to use public bathrooms and especially school bathrooms when they look gross," Dalton said. "You don't know what is in there."

McWilliams' fear of public bathrooms is not unique.

"Etiquette, whose mission is to 'educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone,' washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice for washing hands in public restrooms.

"If the sinks are on the same wall as the urinals, try to choose one that is farthest away from the urinal. Just like someone peeing doesn't want someone else to pee beside him, they also don't want someone to wash their hands beside them."

However, the importance of selecting a urinal in an ideal location tends to be a gender-specific problem.

Unlike girls, boys do not have the luxury of private stalls. This leads to a host of tact behavioral codes.

"When you go to the bathroom, you never ever pee next to a guy," freshman DiCarlo Washington said. "If the stalls are full, you only have two choices, and that's to go next to another guy or wait . . . you wait."

Senior Micah Ainsel agreed, offering more innovative solutions. "If I really, really had to go and there were no urinals that weren't next to a guy, I would either pee in

the sink or in my pants," he said. According to the ICBF, other taboo bathroom practices include talking in the bathroom.

"Conversation may occur directly prior to urinal use, or directly after it, but while engaged at the urinal, verbal communication should be nil," according to the ICBF.

"Under no circumstances should you start a conversation with someone whom you simply discovered to be in the bathroom when you arrive."

However, if these rules seem too complex to remember, a little tact can ensure a proper bathroom experience. The ICBF states that the "ideal situation" is the presence of only one stall or urinal, in which case the etiquette rules are simple. "If it's empty, pee; if it's not, don't."

According to the International Center for Bathroom

Etiquette, whose mission is to "educate everyone on proper conduct in the bathroom, and in so doing make the bathroom experience more enjoyable for everyone," washing hands is one of the most crucial bathroom practices.

Their website www.sbe.org offers advice

SHAKER HANDS SHAKE IT UP!

• Students add creative flair to age-old custom

HANDSHAKE FROM PAGE 1

ture to show that male combatants were not armed and simply wanted to talk.

Over time it has been used as a symbol of peace between nations and opposing parties.

In Santa Clara, California, near San Francisco, Montague Elementary School attempted to have the largest group handshake in the world and be included in the Guinness Book of World Records. They also wanted to promote peace in their community.

Shaker students have given handshakes a whole new twist with complex moves and have made them a representation of friendship.

One such handshake was a five-step move created by sophomores Michael Winlock and Charles Mincek to do when they are together.

"We've been doing it for a long while," Mincek said.

Senior Drew Harrison thinks it is amusing to see these complicated gestures. "I think it looks really funny because some of these guys have really elaborate shakes that are



FRESHMEN SYLVIA ARELLANO and Donald Aaron show off their handshake during sixth period lunch. Secret handshakes have been symbols of friendship between people since medieval times.

like four minutes long and I have no idea how they ever make it to class," Harrison said.

However, some students who witness handshakes do not appreciate them.

"In terms of people in the hall, it's really annoying because they tend to hit people or get in the way. I just think they're idiotic," junior Sara Langhinrichs said.

Secret handshakes have dated

back in history to the Masons, a secret fraternal society. This brotherhood is a religious and educational organization that aims to improve the members' quality of life.

In order to be a part of the Masonic society, members must know certain handshakes. The handshake that is performed when two Masons pass each other is called the "Shibboleth." Specific dialogue goes along with the handshake.

John Youngblood, a secretary at the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, said the purpose of the handshake is "just to be able to identify other members of the group."

Although Shaker students' handshakes are not quite as intense as the Masons', they do represent a bond that is not easy to break. "It represents the unity between me and my friends," Winlock said.

Charles Mincek and Michael Winlock's handshake, one simple step at a time

1 Clap right hands together three times



2 Make a fist and hit above below and straight on; Repeat



3 Clap the palms of the hands together and then the back of the hands



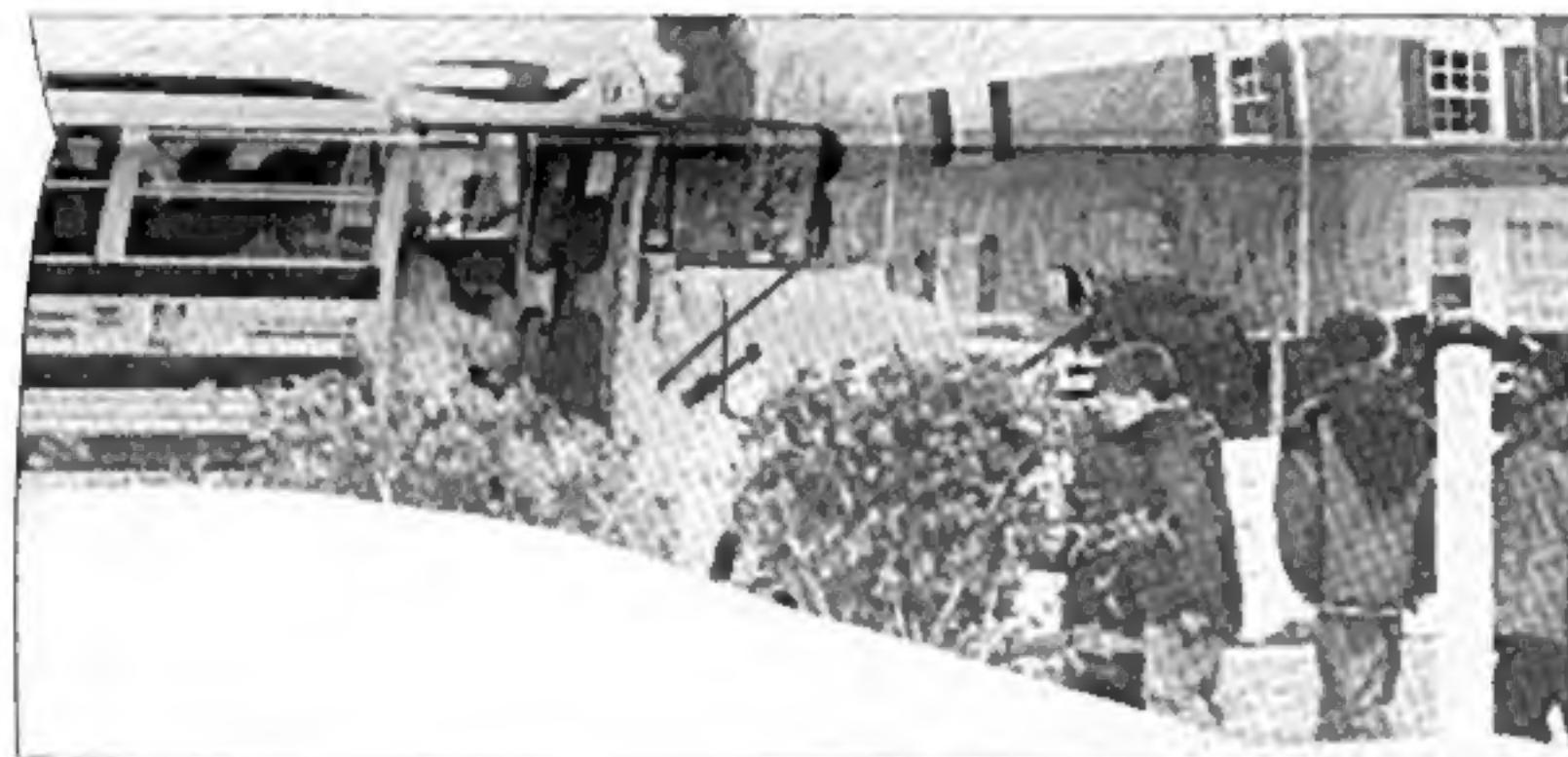
4 Grip right hands together by fingers



5 Release grip and snap fingers



No snow days means walking in a winter wonderland



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS taking the bus to school admire a towering snow mound located near the Rupp field shed. Despite a snowy January and 17 consecutive days of below-freezing temperatures, Shaker did not cancel school.

SNOW FROM PAGE 1

because administrators determined that driving conditions were too hazardous. Record low temperatures of 20 degrees below zero accounted for two snow days in 1994.

Caldwell said the district's compact size makes it relatively easy for snowplows to clear streets in time for school, unlike districts such as Cleveland Municipal Schools, private schools and Catholic schools, which call off school for snow much more frequently than Shaker.

Shaker does give transportation to students who attend religious and independent schools in the area, the furthest of which is Gilmour School in Gates Mills. If Shaker closes, they are still responsible for transporting students to any of the 11 schools. However, Caldwell said, "It would be rare that we would be closed for school and they

wouldn't."

Sophomore Emma Witte, who attended Hawken School last year, said that because Shaker does not bus high school students, there should be more concern for the safety of those who have to walk.

"What doesn't make sense to me is that this is a walking school," Witte said. "Why don't we have more snow days?"

Students often speak conspiratorially about their belief that Shaker administrators consult with neighboring Cleveland Heights and Beachwood and won't call off school unless all three districts take the plunge. Caldwell confirmed that those conversations do indeed occur.

Junior Dominique Sherrill thinks that the conversations between the districts are "nonsense."

"[Beachwood, Shaker and Cleveland Heights] are three different districts, and the weather is going to be different," Sherrill said.

Thousands of students can't be wrong!

Mr. Overbeke's School of Driving



"He actually taught us important things about driving!"

"The information sticks because you make it interesting and fun."

"Driving class is cool."

"I had a lot of fun and learned at the same time!"

"Mr. Overbeke, this class was A-OK!"

"I looked forward to coming to class!"

- Evening classes meet at Orange High School
- On-the-road training
- Guest experts addressing law enforcement and the teen driver
- Classes starting monthly

Convenient registration by phone

25550 Chagrin Blvd. Suite 310
Beechwood, Ohio 44122

216-765-0600

Read The Shakerite

"C'mon, man! I need my nipples!"
12/18/02

"Dude! We gotta get ourselves some fur!"
1/28/03

"You need to take a shower."
"Naw man! I took a bubble bath this morning. It was very nice."
1/10/03

Heard in the Halls

Overheard and out of context

"Hey! Are you sober yet?"
12/16/02

"Man, I don't know where my class is at."
"Look at your schedule."
"I ain't got one."
"That's why you're fat!"
1/28/03

"Quite frankly, I would rather be female."
1/16/03

"If you think about it, they'll scream out if you slash their ankles."
1/21/03

Buy Carnations!
From The Shakerite

\$1.00

January 31 through February 12

Quality, Trust, Integrity, Professionalism

These principles distinguish us as a leading financial services firm.

They are the hallmarks of

Salomon Smith Barney

Ask for Bruce Greenwald

Chagrin Falls Branch

100 North Main Street, Suite 300

Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

(440) 247-1342 (800) 892-6126

SALOMONSMITHBARNEY

SEE HOW WE LEARN IT™

Moving his family
to the middle of nowhere
was the easy part...

EVERWOOD

Treat Williams Gregory Smith

MONDAYS 9pm

Go to wbnx.com NOW for a chance to win an exclusive WB55 Prize Pack that includes 7th Heaven, Everwood, Gilmore Girls, Smallville and Dawson's Creek merchandise and more! Use the code words: "The Frog". Hurry! Contest ends 2/28/03.

WB55
WBNX-TV



Shakerite Sports

WHERE THEY STAND

Men's Basketball 7-7

Women's Basketball 2-12

Hockey 8-11-4

Men's Swimming 6-2

Women's Swimming 5-3

Wrestling 12-4

Totaling a combined record of 40-39-4 1.506 win percentage

1.31.03

8

Foiling his Foes

• Fencing coach William Reith dazzles his competitors and students with class, style and flair

By KIRSTEN WHITEHOUSE
STAFF REPORTER

Have you ever met a coach who defeated the Prince of Monaco and beat three Olympic champions? You have if you know William Reith.

Reith, Shaker's fencing coach, began his fencing career 38 years ago.

"I have always liked watching fencing . . . and Zorro. And it just started from there," said Reith, who met Guy Williams, the real Zorro, later in his life.

Fencing is a rapid, competitive sport that has existed since the times of Ancient Egypt. Unlike team sports, it involves only two individuals dueling it out on an area called the strip, which is approximately 14 meters long and 2 meters wide. Fencers tend to fit into three types of categories.

Those who are more fascinated by technique, blade work and tactics typically practice foil fencing. Viscera fencers, who enjoy the adrenaline rush of a fast, aggressive sword fight, exercise sabre fencing. Epee fencers consider themselves practical, no-nonsense sword fighters.

Reith, who typically competes in epee fencing, has competed in Hungary, Italy, France, Switzerland and South America.

On three different occasions, he beat foreign competitors who at

I have always liked watching fencing . . . and Zorro. And it just started from there.

William Reith
fencing coach

REITH'S ROYAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Reith has defeated Prince Albert of Monaco 2-0 on two separate occasions.
- Reith recently won a National Veterans Foil Championship.
- Reith captured a gold medal on the U.S. Pan-American team when he won the deciding match in 1975.

some point received Olympic medals. He even defeated Prince Albert of Monaco.

"I competed against him twice. The first time he was rough and used a different technique. I don't think he was prepared to be defeated," said Reith, who won both competitions 2-0. "I wasn't intimidated either time; I just worked him up and down the strip using the techniques I had learned."

As an experienced fencer, Reith has taken part for the past six years in the Great Lakes Pentathlon, an Olympic sporting event that lets athletes compete in swimming, fencing, running, pistol shooting and stadium jumping. Just last year he was third in the World Veterans' Championship, and this year he won a National Veterans Foil Championship.

However, Reith's fondest memory dates back to 1975 in Mexico City.

"There were four of us on the U.S. Pan-American team," Reith said. "I fenced the last match, and our team won the team epee gold medal. It was such an honor."

Despite these prestigious awards, Reith said his favorite part of fencing has been coaching for more than 30 years.

"I still enjoy competing. But I re-

ally love seeing the kids develop. The sport teaches them such discipline, and so they learn so much about themselves."

Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, Reith instructs students from Shaker and other schools.

"Bill has taught all of us so much," said freshman Reid Albano, a three-year fencer at Shaker. "He gives us lessons and advice when we really need it. He critiques our fencing skills and has helped all of us improve so much."

Four years ago, Reith helped expand the fencing program to five other Cleveland schools: JFK, John Marshall, East Tech, James Ford Road and Max Havens, where he assisted as a fencing coordinator.

"Bill is a fascinating character. I owe a lot to him for bringing this program to James Ford Roads. He is an amazing coach. He is rough on his students, but it makes them better because of it," said Melissa Roman, the current Roads coach.

Sophomore Jason Pryor, a fencer from Brush High School, summed up the general feeling toward Reith.

"Bill has taught me everything. He teaches us how to win and gives amazing advice," Pryor said.



SOPHOMORE
ANDREW SCHIRALDI deflects the foil of freshman Josh Kramer as the two battle in the fencing room. Fencing coach William Reith has been competing for 38 years and coaching for 30 years. Reith instructs students from Shaker and the surrounding suburbs every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

THE PUPIL ALWAYS FOLLOWS THE MASTER

• Freshmen Stephen Cabrera and Reid Albano qualified for the fencing Junior Olympics in Colorado Springs, CO, which will be held on Feb. 14-17.

They will compete in the under-17 cadet and the under-20 junior divisions.

Cabrera said he is nervous about going. "I'm a little tense. I need to practice more," he said. Albano is too excited to be

worried. "It's pretty cool . . . I can't wait. There are going to be a lot of really good fencers there," he said.

Their coach, William Reith, said Cabrera and Albano are going for the experience of competing as much as anything else.

"They are both on the young end of their divisions," he said.

Katherine Ekeberg

Women's swimming sinks for first time in 11 years

By KATHERINE EKEBERG
SPORTS EDITOR

When the women's swim team headed to Strongsville Jan. 3, they were hoping to increase their win streak to 107.

Instead, they lost their first dual meet since 1992.

"We were all disappointed in ourselves and lost a couple more meets after that," senior swimmer Noreen Malone said.

The 106 consecutive wins spanned 10 years and included 11 consecutive LEL championships. The team has now won 17 consecutive LEL championships overall and, in 1995 and 2001 under former Head Coach Ernest Welsch, Shaker became the only public school in the past 21 years to win the Northeast Ohio District Championships.

SINCE 1992 THERE HAVE BEEN

- Two retirements by Michael Jordan
- Three U.S. presidents
- 14 state titles held by Shaker athletes
- 88 issues of The Shakerite
- 106 wins by the women's swim team

Lizzie Burns attributed the loss to less strength on the team this year than in years past. "We lost a lot of depth when everyone graduated," the senior said.

Malone agreed. "I really do think

we just don't have the depth . . . [Head Coach Eric Peterson] is putting the right line-ups in. I think whether or not Welsch was our coach we would have lost a meet this season," Malone said.

Burns feels that the loss actually helped the swimmers. "Everyone came together as a team. We do a lot of cheering now," she said.

"At first it pulled us apart, but the team chemistry and team spirit has gotten stronger," Malone confirmed.

Both are hopeful for the upcoming sectional and district meets. "I think people will drop a lot of time. The relays all went really, really fast at LELs," Malone said.

Burns added her own high expectations for the near future. "At least one of our relays will qualify for states," she said.



JUNIOR ELLIS SCHIEMER, awaiting the starter's gun, steadies herself on the block during the Raiders' Jan. 3 meet against Strongsville. At this meet, the women's swim team was handed its first dual meet loss since 1992.